

# Weatherization & Intergovernmental Program

## Bringing Clean Energy Technologies to our Communities, Businesses, and Homes

The Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization and Intergovernmental Program deploys complementary activities focused on increasing our country's energy efficiency and security. The efficient use of energy and increased use of renewable energy means lower energy bills for our homes and workplaces, more money for teachers and supplies in our schools, less pollution in our cities, and increased energy security for our nation. These activities help the nation forge a new path in energy management, one that doesn't sacrifice environmental, economic, or security concerns in the pursuit of reliable power.

### Our States and Communities

State and community-based programs, delivered through six Regional Offices, focus on helping Americans save money on their energy bills, while reducing our nation's energy consumption and improving our air quality.

The **Weatherization Assistance Program** partners with states and more than 970 local community agencies to provide energy-saving improvements to the homes of low-income families. Since its

inception, the program has reduced the energy costs of more than five million homes by an average of \$224 per year.

The **State Energy Program** provides states with the funds to carry out their own energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. By engaging the states, projects are tailored to individual community needs, economic conditions, climates, and renewable resources.

The **Building Energy Codes Program** also works with the states, focusing on upgrading their energy efficiency codes and assisting in implementation. The program has saved \$755 million in energy costs since 1976.

**Rebuild America** promotes the energy-efficient reconstruction and new construction of schools, colleges, businesses, multifamily homes, and government buildings. Rebuild America provides information and resource contacts to self-sustaining community partnerships—a collaboration that has resulted in a savings of \$1 billion in energy costs.

### Leveraging Resources

*The Weatherization and Intergovernmental Program works with communities, businesses, manufacturers, and consumers to leverage rapid and targeted deployment of new energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies.*

The **Tribal Energy Program** is designed to help Tribal leaders develop economical and environmentally friendly renewable energy and energy-efficient solutions on Native American lands. The program focuses on increasing awareness and expertise in energy planning and implementation using both renewable and conventional resources, as well as energy-efficient technologies.

Energy efficiency efforts also include **ENERGY STAR®**, a joint program co-managed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that partners with product manufacturers, retailers, utilities, and other government agencies. **ENERGY STAR** identifies and labels highly efficient products that lower energy costs and reduce the environmental impacts of power generation.

But programs aren't all geared toward improving the places where we live and work—we want to improve how we get there as well. **Clean Cities** focuses on improving air quality and reducing our dependence on imported oil by promoting the use of alternative-fueled vehicles through 80 community-based coalitions.

## Our Industries

Complementing community-based programs are initiatives that assist the development and implementation of new technologies.

**Inventions & Innovation** focuses on inventors and small businesses, providing both funding and information to develop and market emerging energy technologies. Participation in the program nearly triples a product's chance of being successfully marketed.

Existing, but underutilized, technologies benefit from National Industrial Competitiveness through Energy, Environment and Economics, or **NICE<sup>3</sup>**. **NICE<sup>3</sup>** advances U.S. competitiveness by demonstrating widely applicable energy-efficient manufacturing technologies in industrial settings.

## Our World

Program activities extend to other countries as well. The **International Renewable Energy Program** works to promote, demonstrate, and encourage the use of renewable energy and energy-efficient technologies in international markets. The program helps countries meet their energy needs, reduces global environmental impacts, expands the demand for U.S. technology, and contributes to international security.

## A Strong Energy Portfolio for a Strong America

Energy efficiency and clean, renewable energy will mean a stronger economy, a cleaner environment, and greater energy independence for America. Working with a wide array of state, community, industry, and university partners, the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy invests in a diverse portfolio of energy technologies.



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